

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No. 83.100, "Flood Insurance.")

Dated: May 9, 1995.

**Richard T. Moore,**

*Associate Director for Mitigation.*

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## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

### 47 CFR Part 32

[DA 95-1027]

#### Proposed Elimination of Detailed Continuing Property Records ("CPRs") for Certain Support Assets

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule; rulemaking notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Accounting and Audits Division has released a Public Notice seeking comments on a Petition for Rulemaking filed by the United States Telephone Association ("USTA") to eliminate CPRs for certain support assets in Part 32 accounts. USTA proposes an alternative property record system for these support assets. This will enable the Commission to determine whether it should initiate a rulemaking proceeding.

**DATES:** Comments due by July 5, 1995; Replies due by August 1, 1995.

**ADDRESSES:** Federal Communications Commission, 1919 M Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20554.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Debra Weber, Common Carrier Bureau, Accounting and Audits Division, (202) 418-0810.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Released: May 10, 1995.

#### United States Telephone Association Files a Petition for Rulemaking to Amend Part 32 of the Commission's Rules to Eliminate Detailed Property Records for Certain Support Assets

#### Public Comment Invited

The United States Telephone Association ("USTA") filed a Petition for Rulemaking ("petition"), proposing that the Commission amend Part 32 of its rules to eliminate detailed continuing property records ("CPRs") for certain support asset accounts. These support assets include the items in Accounts 2115, Garage work equipment; 2116, Other work equipment; 2122, Furniture; 2123, Office equipment; and the personal computers and peripheral equipment in Account 2124, General

purpose computers. In place of CPRs for those accounts, USTA proposes that carriers be permitted to use a vintage amortization level ("VAL") property record system. Under this system, the net book value of existing assets in each account would be placed in a VAL group and amortized on a straight-line basis over the remaining life that results from the asset life chosen from the Commission approved range of lives. All new purchases would also be placed in a VAL group for each vintage for each account, and amortized in the same manner. When the assets in a VAL group are fully amortized, the assets and their associated reserves would be removed from the carriers' books. Salvage proceeds would be reflected as a decrease in amortization expense, and the cost of removal would be reflected as an increase in amortization expense.

We seek comment on the USTA petition, and we invite parties to propose alternatives for simplifying the CPR requirements for these support assets. We encourage parties to focus on how USTA's proposal or any alternative proposal provides for adequate internal controls to safeguard these support assets. We seek comment on what records are necessary to ascertain the location, existence, and cost of these assets. We also seek comment on how carriers should account for retirement of these support assets, and whether these assets should be removed from the carrier's books when fully amortized, as USTA proposes. Finally, we seek comment from any parties believing that our CPR requirements should not be modified for support assets. These parties should explain why, and should emphasize what aspects of our current CPR requirements are the most useful.

Parties may file comments on USTA's petition, or propose alternatives no later than July 5, 1995. Replies should be filed by August 1, 1995. Comments should refer to RM-8640. A copy of each pleading should be sent to Debbie Weber, FCC, Common Carrier Bureau, 2000 L St., N.W., Room 812, Washington, D.C. 20554 and the International Transcription Service (ITS), 2100 M St., N.W., Suite 140, Washington, D.C. 20037, (202) 857-3800. Copies of USTA's petition and any comments will be available for public inspection and copying in the Office of Public Affairs Reference Center, 1919 M St., N.W., Room 239, Washington, D.C. Copies are also available from ITS.

For further information contact Debbie Weber at (202) 418-0812.

Federal Communications Commission.

**William F. Caton,**

*Acting Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 95-12109 Filed 5-16-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-M

### 47 CFR Part 73

[MM Docket No. 95-65, RM-8595]

#### Radio Broadcasting Services; Billings, MT

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** This document requests comments on a petition filed by Conway Broadcasting requesting the allotment of Channel 242C1 to Billings, Montana. Channel 242C1 can be allotted to Billings without a site restriction at coordinates 45-46-58 and 108-30-13.

**DATES:** Comments must be filed on or before July 3, 1995, and reply comments on or before July 18, 1995.

**ADDRESSES:** Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D.C. 20554. In addition to filing comments with the FCC, interested parties should serve the petitioner, or its counsel or consultant, as follows: Lars Conway, Conway Broadcasting, 4415 Freemont Ave., South, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55409.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kathleen Scheuerle, Mass Media Bureau, (202) 418-2180.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This is a summary of the Commission's *Notice of Proposed Rule Making*, MM Docket No. 95-65, adopted May 4, 1995, and released May 12, 1995. The full text of this Commission decision is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the Commission's Reference Center (Room 239), 1919 M Street, NW, Washington, D.C. The complete text of this decision may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractors, International Transcription Services, Inc., 2100 M Street, NW, Suite 140, Washington, D.C. 20037, (202) 857-3800.

Provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 do not apply to this proceeding.

Members of the public should note that from the time a Notice of Proposed Rule Making is issued until the matter is no longer subject to Commission consideration or court review, all *ex parte* contacts are prohibited in Commission proceedings, such as this one, which involve channel allotments. See 47 CFR 1.1204(b) for rules governing permissible *ex parte* contact.

For information regarding proper filing procedures for comments, see 47 CFR 1.415 and 1.420.

#### List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 73

Radio broadcasting.

Federal Communications Commission.

**John A. Karousos,**

*Chief, Allocations Branch, Policy and Rules Division, Mass Media Bureau.*

[FR Doc. 95-12108 Filed 5-16-95; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### 50 CFR Part 659

[I.D. 050595A]

#### Shrimp and Calico Scallop Fisheries Off the Southern Atlantic States; Public Hearings and Scoping Meetings

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of public hearings and scoping meetings.

**SUMMARY:** The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) is holding public hearings to solicit comments on management options for Amendment 1 to the Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for the Shrimp Fishery of the South Atlantic Region (Shrimp FMP) that would add rock shrimp to the management unit. Immediately after the hearings, the Council will hold public scoping meetings to solicit comments on the development of an FMP for the calico scallop fishery and on Amendment 2 to the Shrimp FMP dealing with fishery bycatch issues. See the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for additional information on the hearings and scoping meetings.

**DATES:** The hearings are scheduled as followed:

1. Monday, May 22, 1995, 7 p.m., Wilmington, NC
2. Tuesday, May 23, 1995, 7 p.m., Charleston, SC
3. Wednesday, May 24, 1995, 7 p.m., Cocoa Beach, FL
4. Thursday, May 25, 1995, 7 p.m., Mobile, AL

The public scoping meetings on an FMP for calico scallops and on Amendment 2 to the Shrimp FMP will be held immediately after the public hearings on May 22 and 23. Also, a public scoping meeting on calico

scallops will be held immediately after the public hearing on May 24.

**ADDRESSES:** The hearings will be held at the following locations:

1. Wilmington—Ramada Conference Center, 5001 Market Street, Wilmington, NC 28405; public hearing and scoping meeting.
2. Charleston—Department of Natural Resources, Fort Johnson Auditorium, 217 Fort Johnson Road, Charleston, SC 29412; public hearing and scoping meeting.
3. Cocoa Beach-Holiday Inn, 300 N. Atlantic Avenue, Cocoa Beach, FL 32931; public hearing and scoping meeting.
4. Mobile—Holiday Inn Downtown, 301 Government Street, Mobile, AL 36602; public hearing.

Written comments regarding the issues being discussed at the hearings and scoping meetings must be received on or before June 2, 1995. Requests for copies of the public hearing documents should be sent to the Council at the following address: South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, One Southpark Circle, Suite 306, Charleston, SC 29407-4699.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sharon Coste (Council staff); telephone: 803-571-4366; fax: 803-769-4520.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Public hearings will be held to solicit comments on management options for Amendment 1 to the Shrimp FMP that proposes to add rock shrimp to the management unit, prohibit trawling for rock shrimp in designated areas, and implement mandatory permitting and reporting requirements for vessels fishing for and dealers handling rock shrimp in the South Atlantic region. In addition, a mandatory vessel operator license and other management measures to enhance law enforcement are under consideration.

Public scoping meetings will be held to solicit comments on the development of an FMP for the calico scallop fishery. The Council may consider the following measures as possible management options for this fishery: (1) No action; (2) prohibit calico scallop trawling (trawling) south of 28°30' N. lat.; (3) prohibit trawling south of 28° N. lat.; (4) allow trawling south of Cape Canaveral only with transponders; (5) prohibit trawling west of Oculina Bank; (6) prohibit trawling south of Bethal Shoals; (7) prohibit trawling in depths less than 120 ft. (8) allow trawling with transponders only from Duval through St. Lucie Counties; (9) limit trawling to Duval through St. Lucie Counties; and (10) prohibit trawling south of Cape

Canaveral, Florida (i.e., south of 28°35.1' N. lat.).

The Council will also hold public scoping meetings to solicit comments on Amendment 2 to the Shrimp FMP to address the issue of finfish bycatch in the shrimp trawl fishery. The Shrimp FMP was prepared by the Council in 1992 and approved and implemented by NMFS in 1993. At the time of FMP implementation, the Council was concerned about finfish bycatch in the shrimp trawl fishery and intended, at that time, to begin developing management measures through an FMP amendment that would reduce bycatch. The Council's goal for bycatch reduction was affected by the 1990 Amendments to the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act that mandated a 3-year research program to assess the impacts of shrimp trawl bycatch on fishery resources under management of the Council before management action is taken. The results of this research program have been recently summarized in a NMFS report to Congress titled "A Report to Congress—Cooperative Research Program Addressing Finfish Bycatch in the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic Shrimp Fisheries—April 1995."

These research results will be considered by the Council as an important basis for any specific management actions. Recent advances in gear development through cooperative efforts of Federal and state governments and the shrimp industry have produced Bycatch Reduction Devices (BRDs) that successfully exclude juvenile fish from shrimp trawls with a minimum of shrimp loss. At its October 1994 meeting in Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina, the Council recommended that NMFS emphasize the development of efficient and effective BRDs in its bycatch reduction research efforts in the South Atlantic; this would provide the Council and the South Atlantic states with expanded options to reduce finfish bycatch in the shrimp trawl fishery. Both the Council and the South Atlantic states have requested that NMFS proceed as rapidly as possible to obtain the research information needed to identify and assess options for requiring the use of BRDs under the Shrimp FMP and under coastal fishery management plans (CFMPs) developed by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (Commission) under provisions of the Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Cooperative Management Act of 1993 (Atlantic Coastal Act).

The Council has asked NMFS to conduct a bycatch characterization of the rock shrimp fishery off Cape